

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /020 W  
-----151641Z 092456 /46  
O R 151545Z APR 77 ZFF-4  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6315

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5153

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR UR IC  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF SOVIET OFFICIAL TO ICELAND: REQUEST FOR BIO  
INFORMATION

REF: REYKJAVIK 498

1. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON MFA DEPUTY  
FOREIGN MINISTER IGOR NIKOLAYEVICH ZEMSKOV, OUR FILES  
CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

2. BORN IN LENINGRAD IN 1921, ZEMSKOV BEGAN HIS MFA  
CAREER IN 1947. HISTORIAN BY TRAINING, HE HOLDS DEGREE  
OF CANDIDATE IN HISTORICAL SCIENCES AND HELD LEADING  
POSTS IN MINISTRY'S ARCHIVES ADMINISTRATION 1947-1968.  
HE WAS MEMBER SOVIET DELEGATIONS TO 1959 FOREIGN  
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, 1960 PARIS SUMMIT  
MEETING, 1961-62 GENEVA CONFERENCE ON LAOS, AND 1967  
KOSYGIN DELEGATION TO UNGA.

3. IN 1968 ZEMSKOV WAS APPOINTED MFA SECRETARY  
GENERAL --RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZING INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCES, VISITS OF FOREIGN DIGNITARIES AND FOREIGN  
TRAVEL OF SOVIET LEADERS --AND MEMBER OF COLLEGIUM,  
MINISTRY'S GOVERNING BODY.

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4. IN FEBRUARY 1973 ZEMSKOV BECAME DEPUTY FOREIGN  
MINISTER IN CHARGE OF SCANDINAVIAN AFFAIRS AND CSCE.  
HE ACCOMPANIED FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO TO HELSINKI  
IN JULY 1973 FOR FIRST STAGE CSCE AND TOLD U.S.  
OFFICIAL HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR "BASKET THREE," I.E.,  
HUMANITARIAN, CULTURAL, AND EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

5. ZEMSKOV HOLDS RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY. HE SPEAKS GOOD GERMAN AND ITALIAN, BUT ONLY FAIR ENGLISH. HE IS SAID TO BE A POOR CONVERSATIONALIST AND AN UNPLEASANT NEGOTIATOR.

6. COMMENT: ZEMSKOV'S RESPONSIBILITIES STILL INCLUDE SEVERAL (BUT NOT ALL) ASPECTS OF SOVIET RELATIONS WITH WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. IT SEEMS LIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT THE ICELANDIC AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW HAS HAD SOME CONTACT WITH HIM --MORE THAN WE HAVE-- AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BIO DATA TO HIS GOVERNMENT.  
TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** VISIT OF SOVIET OFFICIAL TO ICELAND: REQUEST FOR BIO INFORMATION  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
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